

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1 through 5 and 8 through 12 are pending, with Claims 1 and 8 being independent. Claims 6, 7, 13, and 14 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1 through 5 and 8 through 12 have been amended. The Abstract has been amended.

Claims 1 through 14 were rejected under “35 U.S.C. § 102(b)” over US 2003/0118158 A1 (Hattori). It appears that the Official Action intended to cite to 35 U.S.C. § 102(a), since Hattori is not prior art under the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). In any event, all rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 8 recite, *inter alia*, that the additional data includes **both** first data indicating a playing direction and second data indicating a playing speed.

However, Applicant respectfully submits that Hattori fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-discussed claimed features as recited, *inter alia*, in Claims 1 and 8.

Applicant respectfully submits that Hattori shows, e.g., use of additional information 113, which may be information indicating the track number that is being reproduced, the title of the tune, playing remaining time of time, and/or internal state of player (e.g., playback (reproduction), **double speed playback** (reproduction), stop, temporary stop, etc.) (e.g., [0060], [0083], [0087], etc.).

However, Applicant respectfully submits that such does not constitute a description or suggestion of the above-discussed claimed feature as recited, *inter alia*, in Claims 1 and 8.

Applicant further submits that there has been no showing of any indication of motivation in the cited documents that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at such claimed features.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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